

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A window framing system, comprising:
 - a plurality of pieces that are structural components of a primary frame, wherein the pieces include a sub-frame and a base,
 - the sub-frame having a corner to receive a glazing unit,
 - the sub-frame has an elongated portion with an L-shaped cross-section that defines said corner, the L-shaped cross-section having a) a first segment in which there are a first plurality of holes through which the sub-frame is to be secured to one of a head, jamb, and sill at a job site, and b) a second segment perpendicular to the first segment with a cavity having an enclosed cross-section formed therein that occupies a substantial portion of the second segment and runs lengthwise through a substantial part of the elongated portion,
 - the base to be assembled with the sub-frame so as to secure the glazing unit in the corner.
2. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1 wherein the pieces further include a sub-frame, a first base and a second base of a mullion,
 - the mullion sub-frame having respective corners to receive first and second glazing units, respectively,
 - the first and second bases to be assembled with the mullion sub-frame so as to secure the first and second glazing units in the respective corners.
3. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 2 wherein the mullion is to be horizontally oriented as assembled.
4. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 2 wherein the mullion is to be vertically oriented as assembled.
5. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 2 wherein the first and second mullion bases are shorter, in height, than said base.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the sub-frame has a plurality of screw holes formed lengthwise in the first segment, each of the screw holes communicates with

an opening that allows material which has been cut, due to a screw being driven in the hole, to exit so as not to fill up the hole.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the base has an elongated portion with an L-shaped cross-section whose first segment lies against the glazing in said corner and whose second segment is to be secured to the sub-frame, the first and second segments lead into a fillet having a chamfer at its corner.

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the first segment of the sub-frame has a second plurality of holes formed laterally in the first segment and through which the sub-frame is to be secured to one of said head, jamb, and sill at the job site by means of a plurality of anchor fasteners.

10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein some of the second plurality of holes line up directly behind the glazing unit that is installed in the corner, and some others of the second plurality of holes line up directly behind corresponding holes in the base through which anchor fasteners are to be passed for securing the sub-frame to one of said head, jamb, and sill at the job site.

11. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein each of the sub-frame and the base is essentially made of a continuous piece of extruded aluminum.

12. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 1 wherein the first segment of the sub-frame is of extruded aluminum with a thermal break formed therein.

13. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 2 wherein the mullion sub-frame has an elongated portion that has a substantially T-shaped cross-section in which the respective corners are on opposite sides of a stem.

14. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 13 wherein the stem has a cavity that runs lengthwise along a substantial part of the elongated portion,
the system further comprising a reinforcing strip sized to be inserted into the stem cavity.

15. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 13 wherein the stem has (i) a cavity therein that runs lengthwise along a substantial part of the elongated portion, and (ii) a pair of slots formed in its outside surface,

the system further comprising a notched reinforcing strip,

wherein the pair of slots are positioned relative to the cavity and are sized relative to the strip so that the strip can be passed through the pair of slots and a notched portion of the strip can be locked into position in the cavity between the pair of slots.

16. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 13 wherein the mullion sub-frame has a cavity that runs lengthwise through a hat of the T-shaped cross-section.

17. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16 wherein the sub-frame has a pair of slots on opposite ends of the hat,

the system further comprising:

a block sized to be inserted into the cavity through the pair of slots and being long enough to extend beyond both said ends of the hat when inserted; and

an intermediate mullion piece that is sized to receive a portion of the block therein.

18. (Withdrawn) A window framing system, comprising:

a shear block; and

a plurality of pieces cut from one or more extruded metal beams to form a frame, wherein the pieces include a perimeter sub-frame and a base,

the perimeter sub-frame having an elongated portion with a substantially L-shaped cross-section whose (i) inside corner is to receive a glazing unit, (ii) first segment is to be secured to one of a head, jamb, and sill, and (iii) second segment has a cavity that runs lengthwise through a substantial part of the elongated portion, the sub-frame having a slot positioned relative to the cavity and sized so that one end of the shear block can be inserted through the slot and into the cavity, and

the base to be assembled with the sub-frame to secure the glazing unit in the corner.

19. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 18 wherein the pieces are extruded aluminum pieces.

20. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 18 further comprising a mullion sub-frame having a cavity in which another end of the shear block is sleeved.

21-28. (Cancelled)

29. (New) A window framing system, comprising:

a plurality of pieces that are structural components of a primary frame, wherein the pieces include a sub-frame and a base,

the sub-frame having a corner to receive a glazing unit,

the sub-frame has an elongated portion with an L-shaped cross-section that defines said corner, the L-shaped cross-section having a) a first segment in which there are a first plurality of holes through which the sub-frame is to be secured to one of a head, jamb, and sill at a job site, and b) a second segment perpendicular to the first segment,

the first segment and the second segment integrally formed with one another,

the base to be assembled with the sub-frame so as to secure the glazing unit in the corner.

30. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein the first segment includes a cavity having an enclosed cross-section formed therein that occupies a substantial portion of the second segment.

31. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein each of the sub-frame and the base is essentially made of a continuous piece of extruded aluminum.